



# Newsletter

November 2016—Term 4 Issue 11

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## KEY DATES

**23 Nov:** Year 7 Ninja Day  
**28 Nov:** Parent Chat Group @ 10am  
**29 Nov:** College Council Meeting @ Schofields  
**5 Dec:** RISE UP Award Day @ Wet n Wild  
**9 Dec:** Stage 4 & 5 Awards

Term 4 Calendar of Events is now available to download!

[CLICK HERE](#)

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## From the Principal - Mr Fanning

When we think about our community here at our College, it has been built over the years by many people working together involving students, parents and caregivers, staff and the wider community. No individual can wait for things to go well as we need to look out and care for each other.

Some examples of care at the college have been especially shown with Year 12 who have completed their Higher School Certificate examinations and are now planning the next phase in their lives. With our departing Year 12 students it was great to see their desire to come back to the Schofields campus and celebrate their graduation with the rest of the student body.

At the same time our incoming Year 7 2017 students joined us at Schofields recently for their Transition Day. During the day our current students, particularly the Peer Support students, were very welcoming and connections were being built by both the current and new students working together. Again we were witness to a sense of community building through students being aware of others and caring for others.

We are all challenged as our motto states 'the Way passes through this land' as St John Paul II Catholic College places the student at the centre of learning. It is our strong desire that our students are able to develop spiritually, emotionally, physically and intellectually to their own personal best.

## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Parents/Caregivers would have heard in the media about a change in the rules around the requirements for the award of the HSC. These changes will apply to students enrolled for the HSC in 2020 who are currently in Year 8. In order to try to improve literacy and numeracy standards, candidates for the HSC will have to meet a minimum standard in these areas. Over the next few years, BOSTES (Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards) will be developing resources and publishing information to assist with the transition to this new standard.

[READ MORE >](#)

## PRAYER

St Vincent de Paul – Christmas Hamper Drive Every year at this time the St John Paul II community comes together to support St Vincent de Paul by donating food products and Christmas items to make Christmas Food Hampers. Our goal every year is to make as many hampers as possible, hoping that we have at least one per homeroom. Your child/ren have been advised of the specific item/s that they need to supply to their class hamper. If you are able to donate more you are more than welcome to do so.

[READ MORE >](#)

**BOOK A PERSONAL TOUR OF OUR CAMPUS!**

# News, Updates and Reports

## SCHOOL FEES NOTICE

Dear Parents/Caregivers,  
Please note that all school fee accounts for 2016 should be finalised by Friday 9 December 2016, unless you have contacted the school office and made other arrangements to extend your payment arrangement. Should you be experiencing financial difficulties, please do not hesitate to contact either Mrs Jean Webb on 9208-7239 or Mr Andrew Noney on 9208-7238 to discuss this matter further. We would like to thank those families that have already finalised their accounts for 2016.

## PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDELIENS FOR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

Parents and carers have long enjoyed photographing their children's progress at school. Today this often includes sharing the images on social media. When other students in the background are identifiable, there can be concerns if their parents/carers have not given permission and the images become public. Some parents and carers may have general privacy concerns about images of their children being posted without their consent, or in some cases, there can be real legal or safety concerns for the child or family concerned. This information letter is intended to set out best practice in this evolving policy area.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the information letter.

## TERM 4 CALENDAR AVAILABLE

The Term 4 Calendar of Events is available to download, print off and pop on your fridge!

[Click here](#) to download

## LOST PROPERTY

Parents are reminded to please put their child's name on any belongings brought to school. Students who may have lost property can visit the College Office to see if anything has been collected or handed in.

## LATEST NEWS

### YEAR 9 REFLECTION DAYS



During Week 5, Year 9 had the opportunity to take part in one of two very inspiring Reflection Days with Chris Doyle. Students did not only enjoy themselves during all the dancing, singing and discussions, but they left the events with a new outlook on their lives, their actions and their values.

[READ MORE >](#)

### RISE UP MERIT PIZZA LUNCH



Last week, students were recognised for their fantastic efforts throughout last Term at the RISE UP Merit Pizza Lunch! Each Stage held a small presentation and pizza lunch for those students who have achieved the most RISE UP merits in their year groups, recognising students who continue to exercise aspects of RISE UP. [READ MORE >](#)

### YEAR 7 2017 TRANSITION DAY



On 31 October, StJPll welcomed the new Year 7 2017 students to their Transition Day! The day gave the students an opportunity to meet staff and future peers for their high school journey. The day included a range of activities with their Peer Support Leaders for 2017 including a scavenger hunt and a sausage sizzle lunch! [READ MORE >](#)

### PILGRIMS SHARE WYD EXPERIENCE



Our World Youth Day pilgrims recently spent their mornings sharing their experiences with StJPll and feeder schools after attending WYD 2016 earlier in the year. The pilgrims shared experiences of mission work, catechesis classes and experiencing their faith with different cultures, with the central message being 'acts of mercy brings hope to all'. [READ MORE >](#)

### YEAR 9 CELEBRATE ALL SAINTS DAY



Last week, Year 9 students and staff gathered to celebrate Mass for All Saints' Day. All Saints' Day is a solemn Holy day of the Catholic Church celebrated annually on November 1, dedicated to the saints of the Church. Year 9 were challenged by Mr Fanning to go out and do saintly things, where they use their gifts for the common good of others. [READ MORE >](#)

### YEAR 11 CONSTRUCTION GET BUSY



Our Year 11 Construction students recently installed a slat display wall in our Schofields Library! Students learnt to measure up the job, ordered the materials, cut materials to size and then installed the wall. This project not only gave the students practical experience but also taught them valuable site skills for the industry. [READ MORE >](#)

# TEACHING & LEARNING

## YEAR 10 TEST EARTHQUAKE RESISTANT HOUSES



Miss Morgan's Year 10 Science class used a range of materials and techniques to design their own earthquake resistant buildings that would have minimal movement during an earthquake. Each group had the opportunity to test their buildings by shaking it in a box of mulch to simulate a real life situation. Afterwards the students evaluated the results.

[READ MORE >](#)

## YEAR 7 GO FOR AN ALEGBRA WALK



Year 7 students have been learning about linear relationships in mathematics over the past 2 weeks. One activity that had students out and about was an 'Algebra walk'. This had students representing a value of 'x' and then doing some multiplication and sums with this number.

[READ MORE >](#)

## YEAR 7 LEARN SUBSTANCE SEPARATION TECHNIQUES



Year 7 student, Holly Zavone, writes about what they have been learning in Year 7 Science this term! Students have been learning about substance separation and are beginning to experiment with the different techniques. Some of the techniques they have learnt and practiced are Crystallisation and Chromatography . [READ MORE >](#)

## PROGRESSIVE ACHIEVEMENT TESTING (PAT) AT STJPII



Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT) are tests designed to assess the students learning achievements throughout the year. The results obtained from these tests are used by the College to target teaching and learning activities to areas of weaknesses in the College to maximise the students learning in the future. [READ MORE >](#)

## COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

Exposing children to domestic violence is emotional abuse. And that abuse has a range of negative consequences. Neglect and physical abuse also frequently occur along with the emotional abuse. Children who report high levels of exposure to violence (either as witness or victim) report the highest levels of depression, anger and anxiety. Some of them can become desensitised to violence and learn that it's normal. They may become more aggressive themselves. A Canadian study found that children who witnessed chronic parental violence were at greater risk of substance abuse. [READ MORE >](#)

## STAGE 4 UPDATES: TERM 4

Year 9 students have recently participated in two days of Peer Support Training in preparation for the Year 7 students of 2017. Although all students demonstrated great leadership qualities only 66 students were selected to be Peer Support Leaders. They put their leadership skills into action on Year 7 Transition Day, where they met their peer support students for the first time!

Year 10 students recently participated in reflection day. The focus of the day was 'service' and students were involved in many activities where they learnt the importance of serving others. Year 10 students for the last 3 weeks in learning enrichment will be undertaking Community Service training for Vinnies Van.

[READ MORE >](#)



**School travel 2017**  
Application information Nov 2016

### Information for parents, guardians and students

Our school has partnered with Transport for NSW to use the new online process for you to submit school travel applications.

This means we will be able to process your applications online, making it easier and faster for parents, guardians and students to apply for school travel.

Applications for school travel in 2017 are now open, including for travel to Mascot and Green Square station and for private ferries. Parents, guardians and students are encouraged to apply as soon as they are able via:

**Applications for 2017 school travel are now open via**  
[www.transportnsw.info/school-students](http://www.transportnsw.info/school-students)

## DIOCESE EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

The Diocese of Parramatta has a range of events and opportunities over the next few months that could be of interest to you!

[Click here](#) to view the list of upcoming events.